Library

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1961

1961

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

Mayor :

COUNCILLOR A. G. F. MARRIOTT

Deputy Mayor :

COUNCILLOR H. E. CORNWALL

Public Health Committee :

(*Full Council*)

Chairman : Alderman A. E. Busby, J.P.

Alderman The Rt. Hon. Lord Addington, O.B.E., T.D., D.L.

Alderman P. J. Small.	Alderman S. G. Williams
Coun. J. M. Cornwall	Coun. C. G. Hardy
,, J. Edmonds	,, T. E. Holton
,, F. Akister	,, W. Krohn
,, E. Goss	,, T. Lambourne
,, H. Adams	,, F. F. De Angeli

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

D. H. WALDRON, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.M.S. (Rtd). (The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C., Linslade U.D.C., Wing R.D.C., Newport Pagnell U.D.C., Newport Pagnell R.D.C., and Wolverton U.D.C., and Divisional School M.O. for North Bucks and Buckingham and Winslow District and Area Medical Officer for North Bucks).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

R. A. ATKINSON, M.A., B.Ch., D.P.H., from 1-8-1961.

Health Inspector :

R. TAYLOR, M.S.I.A. Telephone : Buckingham 2295.

Secretary :

MISS M. CULLEY.

BOROUGH OF BUCKINGHAM

TOWN HALL,
BUCKINGHAM,
18th June 1962.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Buckingham.

Mr. Mayor, My Lord and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1961.

The Birth Rate, although slightly lower than the previous year, is still higher than the County rate and 2½ points higher than that for England and Wales.

The Death Rate shows a rise of three points over the previous year but still compares favourably with that for England and Wales. Heart and Allied Diseases and Cancer accounted for 26 of the total of 53 deaths.

The Infantile Mortality Rate which had the satisfactory figure of Nil for the two previous years showed a rise. There were 2 deaths in this group both under the age of 4 weeks.

I should like to record again my thanks to your Town Clerk, Mr. Archdeacon, your Borough Surveyor and Health Inspector, Mr. Rennie Taylor, and their staffs for their helpful co-operation during the year.

I am,
Your abedient Servant,
DANIEL H. WALDRON.

A. Vital Statistics

	1960	1961
Area (in acres)	5,367	5,367
Population	4190	4360
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,718	1,779
Rateable Value	£54,723	£59,492
Rate per £1	22/4	23/-
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	£230	£245

BIRTHS :	M.	F.		
Legitimate	39	40	79	76
Illegitimate	2	2	4	6
Birth rate per 1,000 population			20.9	19.9
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, (Bucks) ..			18.6	18.6
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, (England and Wales)			17.1	17.4
Still Births			2	1

	M.	F.		
DEATHS	23	15	38	53
Death rate per 1,000 population			8.9	11.9
,, ,, ,, (Bucks)			9.7	9.4
,, ,, ,, (England & Wales			11.5	12.0
Maternal Mortality Rate			Nil	Nil
,, ,, ,, (Bucks) ..			0.11	0.11
,, ,, ,, (England & Wales)			0.39	0.33

INFANTILE MORTALITY :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	Nil	24.4
,, ,, (Bucks)	19.8	18.1
,, ,, (England & Wales)	21.7	21.4

Principal Causes of Death :	1960			1961		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	5	3	8	5	4	9
Diabetes	1	0	1	0	1	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	4	6	2	6	8
Heart Disease	8	3	11	2	4	6
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	3	4	3	0	3
Bronchitis	0	0	0	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	0	1	3	0	3
Digestive Diseases	0	0	0	1	0	1
Congenital Causes	0	0	0	0	1	1
Nephritis	0	0	0	1	0	1
Accidents	2	0	2	4	0	4
All other Causes	2	2	4	1	12	13
Totals ..	23	15	38	24	29	53

B. General Provision of Health Services

1. Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens for pathological investigation were sent, as in previous years, to the laboratory at Oxford. The arrangement was satisfactory. Samples for chemical analysis have to be sent to Haywards Heath.

2. Ambulance Services.

These are administered direct from the County Health Department, Aylesbury. One " Utilicon " car was stationed in Buckingham, and supplemented when necessary with ambulances from Bletchley. All vehicles are radio controlled.

3. Nursing in the Home.

The District Nurses as always carried out their excellent work.

4. Clinical and Treatment Centres.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.—A Centre at the Congregational Chapel Hall has held bi-monthly sessions with the Medical Officer in attendance once a month. Although the amenities of the Centre were far from ideal, good work has been carried out therein and attendance has been satisfactory. Total attendance of children throughout the year was 567. I feel that too much praise cannot be given to those ladies who give so much of their spare time in helping with this work. Diphtheria and other immunisations were also carried out in this Clinic.

(b) Orthopaedic Clinic—Sessions have been held twice monthly and have been staffed by nurses from the Wingfield Morris Hospital.

(c) Chest Clinic—This self-contained unit, complete with X-ray, continues to do very good work. It is held once a week at Buckingham Hospital, and is attended by the Chest Physician.

5. Hospitals.

The following hospitals have received cases from this area :

1. Buckingham Hospital.
2. Aylesbury Isolation Hospital (Infectious cases).
3. Slade Hospital, Oxford.
4. Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
5. Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford.
6. Creaton Sanatorium.
7. Royal Bucks.
8. Tindal Hospital.

6. Domestic Help Service.

This service, instituted under the National Health Service Act, is administered by the County Council. During the year 76 cases were assisted.

C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water.

The public water supply was maintained throughout the year adequately. The quality was at all times satisfactory.

Average daily consumption was 42.52 gallons per head of the population.

Metered premises used 16,204,206 gallons.

The total amount of water consumed during the year in Buckingham and Gawcott was 67,655,100 gallons.

Abstraction from the Maids Moreton wells was 64,746,200 gallons during the year. No serious breakdown of plant or machinery occurred.

Peak consumption was 230,000 gallons per day on the 10th February.

Twenty bacteriological examinations were made on the raw water, all were satisfactory.

Messrs. G. Stow Ltd. were employed to dismantle the Potter Deep Well Pump over the 10″ borehole at Maids Moreton. The borehold was cleaned out and test pumped with a submersible pump for 72 hours continuous running.

A reliable yield of 6,200 gallons per hour was obtained and analysis of samples showed the water to be of satisfactory quality.

A permanent installation has been made consisting of a " Sumo" Submersible Pump, together with necessary pipework and starting equipment and, towards the end of September water from this source was introduced into the Public Supply.

The Borough now has a reliable supply of approx. 280,000 galls. per day which gives a reasonable surplus over present demand.

The above Works were paid for out of revenue and no Loan was applied for.

Your Consulting Engineers' services were used for this project.

Chemical Analysis of Public Water

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C.)	48.0	33.6
Combined Chlorine (Cl)	2.2	1.5
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl) ..	3.6	2.5
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.04	0.03
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3) ..	26.5	18.6
Permanent hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3) ..	8.0	5.6
Total hardness (equivalent to Ca Co3) ..	34.5	24.2

2. Sewage Disposal.

The new sewage disposal works at Bourton is producing a satisfactory effluent before discharge into the river.

Terms are being negotiated with the Buckingham R.D.C. whereby further extensions to the new works will be carried out to deal with sewage from Maids Moreton when the sewerage system to this village is modernised.

Considerable difficulty is found in disposing of the sludge residue from the works and some nuisance is caused in hot weather from the drying beds.

3. Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is collected weekly throughout the area.

Complaints regarding refuse collection are few and infrequent.

Refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping method. One tip is used at Gawcott and the new tip at Stratford Road, Buckingham is in operation. The latter site should provide tipping space for the town for a considerable number of years.

4. Swimming Pool.

The Pool continued to be well patronised during the Summer season.

Season ticket sales produced	£134	19	0
Gate receipts produced	£375	13	7
Refreshments sold amounted to	£277	18	1

The Education Dept. contributed £175 11 8 for the use of the pool by local schools for swimming instruction.

The pool water was at all times satisfactory but the need is obvious for improved changing accommodation.

5. Factories.

No matters calling for special attention have been reported.

Factory extensions are in hand at Messrs. E. & F. Ruchardson's and also Messrs. Leslie Hartridge, Ltd. Progress is being made towards the completion of the Wipac development.

There seems to be a general trend towards expansion amongst industrial undertakings in the town.

14 outworkers were notified to the Council during 1961.

PART I OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notiecs	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Loeal Authorities	5	16	—	—
(ii) Factories not ineluded in (i) in which Seetion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	29	35	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Loeal Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	17	2	—
TOTAL	38	68	2	—

6. PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The Public Mortuary, situated in this Council's yard, continued to serve the needs of the Borough and the Rural District.

D. Housing.

16 Old People's Bungalows were completed and occupied. Negotiations are in hand for the erection of a further 46 general purpose 3 bedroom Houses on the Pightle Overn Hill Estate.

Building is continuing on four Private Estates some of which are substantially completed. A total of 141 Houses and Bungalows is involved.

A total of 187 Applications is lodged with the Housing Department for accommodation.

E. Annual Report of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

I have pleasure in presenting a brief report on the principal activities of the Public Health Department during 1961.

Nuisances, Contravention of Bye-Laws, etc.

Complaints received and investigated	591
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint	32
Nuisances, etc., abated	470
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts	Nil
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts	74
Prosecutions	—

Houses and Premises Inspected

The total number of inspections under the Public Health Acts were as follows :—

Dairies and Cowsheds	31
Bakehouses	14
Butchers' Shops	71
Slaughter Houses	120
Foodshops	36
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order	—
Infected house visits (excluding Tuberculosis cases) ..	—
Dwelling houses	372

Housing Acts.

A number of houses still remain occupied and fall short of standard requirements, some of these are occupied by families not prepared to pay higher rents charged for council housing accommodation.

Two dwellings were condemned under the Housing Acts.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	197	..	3	733	315	..
Number inspected	197	..	3	733	315	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	1	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	..	..	11	4	..
% of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	6.09	..	..	1.5	1.58	..
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
% of inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	..	..	..	..	..	..
Generalised and totally condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..

171 lbs. of other foods were condemned and destroyed during the year.

Close attention has been paid to food premises, having regard to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955-56.

The number of premises affected by the regulations being 84 and falling into the following categories :—

Cafes and Restaurants	8
Public Houses	17
Stalls	5
Canteens	15
Food Shops	34
Dairies	3

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act is 22, and all such premises are regularly inspected.

No clean food campaigns have been sponsored during the period.

All food premises have been supplied with extracts from the Food Hygiene Regulations.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of Petroleum Spirit	30
Inspection of Petroleum Stores	39

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDER, 1919.

RODENT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

Work under this heading has continued to occupy a large amount of time, and much good work has been done in this direction throughout the year. The following is a brief summary of the work carried out :—

Number of complaints received	24
Number of premises treated for rats	48
Number of premises treated for mice	8
Estimated number of rats destroyed	47
Actual rats' bodies found	22
Visits for Inspection and Survey	110
Visits for Baiting and Extermination	91

RENNIE TAYLOR,

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

1. General.

In April and May we had an outbreak of Measles. This was part of a general epidemic throughout the country.

2. Number of Notified Cases of Infectious Disease.

	1960	1961
Measles	4	30
Dysentery	—	4

3. Cancer.

There were 9 deaths from this disease during the year.

4. Tuberculosis.

Three new cases were notified and there was no deaths.

D. H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.

E. N. Hillier & Sons Ltd.
Printers
Buckingham